

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 05857 231609Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----000807 231612Z /42
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S E C R E T CAIRO 05857

NODIS

STADIS////////////////////////////////

FROM ATHERTON

U.S. DEL NO. 15

DEPARTMENT FOR INR-SAUNDERS

JERUSALEM FOR STERNER ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, XF, US
SUBJECT: NEGOTIATIONS ON DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

REF: STATE 046300

1. BY SEPTTEL I AM SENDING REVISED ITINERARY WHICH
ALLOWS MORE TIME FOR MEETINGS HERE IN CAIRO DURING
CURRENT VISIT AND TAKES ACCOUNT OF WORD WE NOW HAVE FROM
TOM PICKERING THAT SHARAF IS WITH HUSSEIN IN LONDON AND
FACT THAT THEREFORE THERE IS LITTLE I COULD ACCOMPLISH
IN AMMAN BEFORE THE KING RETURNS. ACCORDINGLY I
DO NOT NOW EXPECT TO MEET WITH DAYAN BEFORE SUNDAY,

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FEBRUARY 26, AT EARLIEST.

2. WILL LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING YOUR DRAFT OF UPDATE
OF STRATEGY PAPER. AT SOME LATER POINT, AFTER TALKS
HERE AND PERHAPS THE NEXT ROUND IN JERUSALEM, WILL GIVE
YOU MORE DETAILED ASSESSMENT OF HOW FAR WE WOULD EXPECT
TO BE ABLE TO PROGRESS IN OUR EFFORTS PRIOR TO BEGIN'S

VISIT TO WASHINGTON. AS INDICATED SEPTTEL, IT SEEMS TO ME THAT OUR MAJOR EFFORT IN MY UPCOMING TALKS WITH KAMEL ABOUT DECLARATION WILL HAVE TO BE DIRECTED AT GETTING EGYPTIANS TO SOFTEN AT LEAST SOMEWHAT THEIR THINKING ON DRAFT DECLARATION LANGUAGE.

3. I AM MORE PERSUADED THAN EVER THAT, AS PLANNED, IT WILL BE NECESSARY AT SOME POINT TO PRESENT A U.S. PROPOSAL. WE HAVE BEEN CONSIDERING WHEN THAT MIGHT BEST BE DONE. IT WOULD SEEM DESIRABLE TO HAVE SEEN HUSSEIN AND SAUDIS FIRST, AND ALSO TO HAVE HAD ENOUGH SESSIONS WITH EGYPTIANS AND ISRAELIS TO ESTABLISH THAT THEY ARE NOT ON THEIR OWN GOING TO BE ABLE TO MOVE TO AGREED TEXT. OUR TENTATIVE THINKING, THEREFORE, IS THAT WE SHOULD BE READY TO PUT THE U.S. PROPOSAL TO THE EGYPTIANS ON MY RETURN HERE FROM SAUDI ARABIA MARCH 6/7 AND TO THE ISRAELIS MARCH 8. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THIS. EILTS

SECRET

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